



## Climate change: Impacts on and implications for global health

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### Abstract:

The most severe consequences of climate change will accrue to the poorest people in the poorest countries, despite their own negligible contribution to greenhouse gas emissions. In recent years, global health efforts in those same countries have grown dramatically. However, the emerging scientific consensus about climate change has not yet had much influence on the routine practice and strategies of global health. We review here the anticipated types and global distribution of health impacts of climate change, discuss relevant aspects of current global interventions for health in low-income countries, and consider potential elements of a framework for appropriately and efficiently mainstreaming global climate change-mitigation and -adaptation strategies into the ongoing enterprise of global health. We propose a collaborative learning initiative involving four areas: (1) increased awareness among current global health practitioners of climate change and its potential impacts for the most disadvantaged, (2) strengthening of the evidence base, (3) incorporation now of climate change-mitigation and -adaptation concerns into design of ongoing global health programs, and (4) alignment of current global health program targets and methods with larger frameworks for climate change and sustainable development. The great vulnerability to climate change of populations reached by current global health efforts should prompt all concerned with global health to take a leading role in advocating for climate change mitigation in their own countries.

**Source:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2008.08.023>

### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Human Conflict/Displacement, Human Conflict/Displacement, Unspecified Exposure

**Extreme Weather Event:** Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones

**Food/Water Security:** Nutritional Quality

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

#### Geographic Location:

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resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

## **Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):**

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

**Infectious Disease:** Vectorborne Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** Other Diarrheal Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** Malaria

## **Intervention:**

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

## **Medical Community Engagement:**

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

## **Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Review

## **Resilience:**

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to

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shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

### **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

### **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content